

## PELAGIC SEALING METHODS

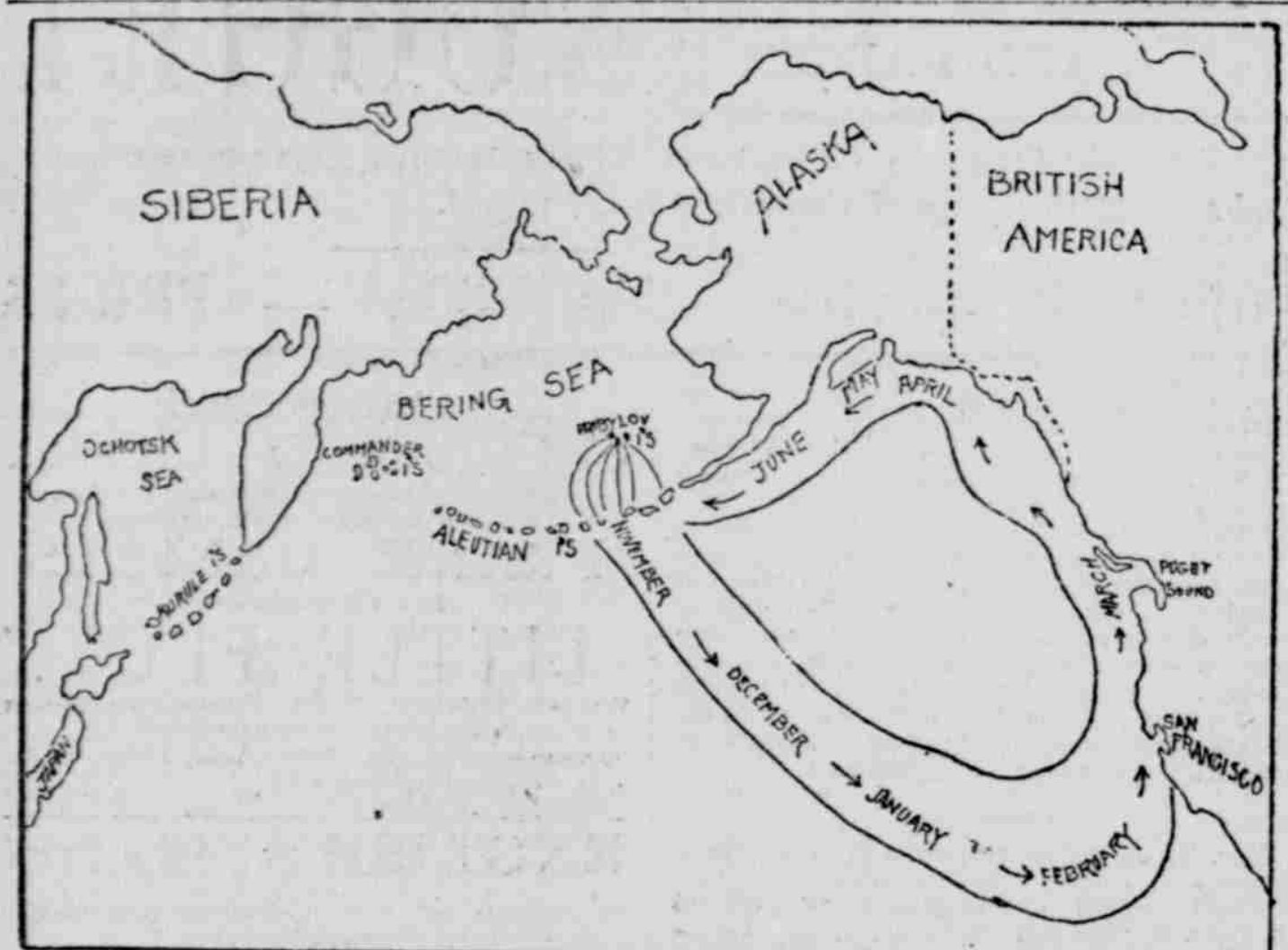
Wholesale Slaughter of Seals Conducted on Scientific Principles.

How the Animals are Murdered—Rifles for White Men and Spears for Indians—Frightful Kicks Which the Hunters Take.

Special Correspondence of the Sunday Journal.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—If the temporary agreement for protecting the seals of Alaska, known as the "modus vivendi," were not renewed, the whole practical fleet of sealers would enter Behring sea next July and wipe out in one season the entire Pribylov herd, destroying the sealing industry in those waters forever. To make this understood, it is only necessary to explain the astonishingly scientific system of slaughter adopted by the pelagic sealers. Suppose that there were a single herd of 1,000,000 valuable fur-bearing beasts which traveled continually over a kite-shaped track, many thousands of miles in circuit, on the great plains of the West. Imagine that, these animals devoted eight months in every year to traversing this route, never varying from it, so that their entire company was always sure to be at a given point on the road at a certain date, though halting together in an isolated spot for four months annually, to breed and rear their young. How long would it be before the greedy hunters would have wiped them all out? If the latter were permitted to surround them at their breeding place, a single season would suffice for their extermination.

That is precisely the situation of the seals. The herd—there is only one—leaves the Pribylov islands about Nov. 10 each year, to spend the winter in warmer waters.



MIGRATION CHART OF PRIBYLOV SEAL HERD.

(After Elliott.)  
[Leaving Pribylov Islands About Nov. 10 and Returning by July 10.]

Passing southward through the Aleutian chain and out of Behring sea, the animals swim in a southeasterly direction, toward Santa Barbara, about four hundred miles south of San Francisco, on the Pacific coast. There they turn and go northward—nearly a million strong—hugging the coast, past Oregon and Washington, and along the northern shore of Alaska into Behring sea, reaching the Pribylov islands again by July 10. Upon those lonely rocks they breed and nurse their young for four months, at the end of which time the pups are weaned and big enough to accompany the annual migration. The track they follow is never varied from, and each week in the year finds them at the same stage of their route, so that no difficulty in discovering the herd is experienced by the hunters, who pursue the poor beasts relentlessly month after month, killing, killing, killing, until they get back into Behring sea again and are safe for awhile. No present project for putting a stop to this is entertained. The "modus vivendi" and the seizure of vessels have merely related to the exclusion of the pelagic sealers from Behring sea itself, where they are anxious to go and wipe out the whole breeding herd, while it is assembled on two small islands, thus making an end of the species at once and "for good."

Before explaining in detail the remarkably effective method by which this result would be accomplished, some very interesting points may be mentioned respecting the extraordinary business of pelagic sealing. For the pursuit of this industry small schooners of from forty to sixty tons are equipped. Each such vessel starts on a voyage with three or four months' provisions, a quantity of salt, a supply of repeating rifles and fifteen or twenty men. Usually the crew includes a few Indians from Vancouver's island and Neneh bay, Washington. The schooner sails out into the path of the herd of seals. She has no trouble in discovering them when the right point is reached by the popping up on all sides in the water of the animals' heads. Then, unless the weather is too rough, and lowers into the sea a number of small dories. Each dory is occupied by two men. One of them sits in the bow, with a Winchester rifle or a bow, loaded with buckshot, across his lap, while the other rows. The effort is to extend from the vessel a line of from seven to ten dories, while each dory will hail of each other, so that they can find their way back in case of a fog or storm. Having taken their positions, they wait for the chance of a seal's head popping up within range. The animals, while traveling, only appear on the surface at the intervals necessary for breathing, taking a quick and cautious look around, and immediately diving again to swim and fish. They do all their swimming and fishing under water.

When the hunter sees a head pop up, if he is quick enough, he may have time to aim and fire before the seal has taken an instantaneous dive. Then, if he is slow, usually, when the animal comes up close alongside the boat, its fright is so great that it disappears from sight for a moment, but if it pops up at a distance of fifty or 100 yards, perhaps it may pause for two or three seconds, and afford an opportunity to the hunter to take aim. The best aim is necessarily very uncertain, inasmuch as both boat and seal are tossing about in the lumpy water. No matter whether it is hit or not, the seal sinks instantly. If killed outright it sinks, but if the marksman, by keeping his eyes on the spot where the carcass was under, can so direct the boat as to get there quickly enough, he may be able to see the body of the animal going down in the crystal-clear water. In that case he whips out his harpoon and fishes it up. To succeed in this, however, he must arrive in time at the exact point where the carcass sank, since it is only from just above that it will be visible through the choppy waves, which show no bubble for a guide. A dead seal will sink from six to ten feet while a live seal is rowed fifty yards. There is more skill in finding the prey after it is hit than in shooting it. Supposing that the seal is slightly or mortally wounded, it dives and swims away, in most cases to perish later. If merely stunned it flounders about on the surface and is easily taken, but that seldom occurs. From this brief description some notion can be formed of the enormous waste of lives in the kind of hunting, which, according to the testimony of the sealers themselves, destroys fifteen animals for every one secured.

RELENTLESS PURSUIT.

After a few days the herd thus intercepted by the schooner will have passed by. This is discovered from the fact that no more heads of seals are seen popping up in the water. Have the unfortunate beasts at length made their escape from this predatory vessel? By no means. She simply spreads her canvas to the breeze, sails

for sixty or a hundred miles, overhails the animals and proceeds as before. So it continues week after week, month after month, until they have been pursued to Behring sea, into which some bold poachers follow them, lying off the Pribylov islands in the fog which hardly ever lifts and shooting the breeding mothers that venture out into the ocean. In 1886 there were twenty vessels engaged in the sealing industry on the northwest coast. There were twenty-two in 1887, thirty-three in 1888, forty-five in 1889, and 110 last summer. This year there will be about 125 schooners in the business. All of these craft and more than two thousand Canadian, American, Japanese and Indian hunters are devoted to the indiscriminate slaughter of this herd of valuable creatures, which are to-day almost 50 per cent. females. They are at this writing passing up the coast by Vancouver's island. Of those which are now being killed 80 per cent. are heavy with young. By July 10 the entire herd will be on two islands in Behring sea, breeding and nursing their young. The pups are all born by July 25, and up to Nov. 10 the mother seals are constantly going out to the ocean fishing banks for food. They nurse their offspring at intervals of from one to four days, and travel in search of fish fifty to three hundred miles away from the islands. The fleet, entering Behring sea in July, would draw a cordon around the islands, practically annihilate all the mothers before the helpless young are weaned in November, and leave the infant seals to starve by myriads on the rocks. While not literally exterminating the species, the result of this would be to destroy the sealing industry forever. True, the pelagic sealers would ruin their own business, but they belong to a class of people who care only for to-day and do not look forward to the morrow.

If Lord Salisbury could see one of these Canadian sealers thrust his gaff-hook into the carcass of a nursing female seal and drag the body over the gunwale into the boat; if, as this ruthless destroyer cuts the hide from the animal, he could watch the milk spurt, on which a poor little family of baby seals depends for sustenance, how quickly would he cry shame upon such beastly, barbarous conduct! How long would it be before a signed agreement with the United States for the protection of the persecuted creatures? It is most unfortunate that the details of this inhuman business have hitherto been made familiar to the public.

The Indian hunters carried by the sailing vessels take an important part in the chase. They are turned loose on days when the weather has succeeded a storm. At such times the seals, which have been so tossed about in the water as to have had no sleep for a considerable period, indulging in the luxury of sound naps on the ocean billows, lying on their backs at the surface, with only their nose and knuckles on the head. Thus rocked in the cradle of the deep, they peacefully repose, doubtless enjoying pleasant dreams, while the savage in his canoe approaches silently from the leeward. When within striking distance the hunter drives a toggle-headed spear into the unconscious animal, drags the prey up to the boat, and kneels on the head. This method of slaughter, though no less indiscriminate than that adopted by the white man, has the advantage that no seal that is struck is lost.

A FALSE ASSERTION.  
The pelagic sealers have asserted that the breed of seals hunted off the Straits of Fuca and Vancouver's island is not the same as that of the Pribylov islands, and that the Alaskan seals frequent more or less the Russian seal islands on the other side of Behring sea, seals from the latter, fronder in the summer months, some times joining the Pribylov herd. As a matter of fact, every seal which journeys through eastern waters of the north Pacific was born and bred on the Pribylov islands. Never within historic times have the animals composing the Pribylov herd "hailed" from any other place than on those islands, which they doubtless selected because they were uninhabited, not being discovered until 1786, while the mainland Alaskan islands of the Aleutian chain were overrun very anciently by savage men. That no Russian seal was ever taken on the Pribylov islands, or vice versa, is proved by the records of market sales of the skins in London. The Russian pelts are readily distinguishable from the Alaskan, being much lighter in color. Presumably the warmer water about the command islands, the temperature being about forty degrees higher, has made the difference in the course of gestation. The Russian skins are only worth about half as much as the Alaskan.

The herd which breeds upon the Commander islands is about as large numerically as the Pribylov herd at present, comprising somewhat less than one million individuals. It spends the winter in the Japan sea and in the neighborhood of the Kurile islands. Thus far it has not been attacked to any extent by pelagic sealers, simply because these slayers have been centered upon the more valuable Alaskan animals. However, as soon as the Pribylov herd has been wiped out, the Russian seals will be attacked and just claims no right to receive, why they pursue such an occupation. The gunner is paid for the skins he gets from \$2.50 to \$5 a piece, according to the size and quality. The boat-puller is paid from 40 cents to \$1 a skin, though sometimes he works for \$30 a month. Ten skins make a very big day's catch, and to get so many the hunter will usually expend from 150 to 200 cartridges. That would signify about \$40 for the hunter, whose labor is highly skilled, and \$4 for the boat-puller. The owner of the vessel provides ammunition. Indians have their own spears and canoes. They get the same prices for skins as the white men, but do not secure so many.

When the skins have been fetched aboard they are rubbed with plenty of salt to preserve them. Enough of the fat is left upon them to hold the salt. This fat has an extraordinarily offensive odor. The smell is not only disagreeable, but it has a certain sickening quality which turns the stomach of any one who is not accustomed to it. When the officers of the revenue marine board a sealing schooner their first proceeding is almost invariably to go to the rail of the vessel and relinquish whatever they have eaten recently with an abandon which appears as if they have no further use for it whatever.

PENSIONS FOR VETERANS.

Residents of Indiana and Illinois Whose Claims Have Been Allowed.  
Pensions have been granted the following named Indians:

Original—William A. White, Isaac N. Keller, Milton A. Shipley, William E. Horn, Henry D. Colpe, William F. Chapman, Charles Carter, Samuel Pettit, S. Robinson, William W. Evans, Lavoyes Leslie, Sampson Swinegar, Daniel Wells, Thomas Grimes, William Barnum, Christian Bickel, John R. Leiler, Jacob Rinebolt, Joseph Modlin, William B. Miksel, Alfred Carper, James A. Enoch, Jacob White, Josiah Elman, Calvin Watkins, Noah Frick, Henry A. Reed, Lorenzo D. Jenkins, Conrad Post, Charles Giesley, William Morrow, Taylor, Paulston, Albert J. Hanson, Additional—William H. Grooms, W. Booth, Hugh Pritchard, Henry H. Harvey, William H. E. Hamilton, Charles D. McKay, Phineas Holmes, John A. Shoemaker, Supplemental—Joseph A. Heron, Increase H. Hedrick, William M. Alexander, D. H. Allen, Benjamin J. Grant, L. F. Hiett, F. Bamberger, Thomas D. DeCorty, M. Law, H. Willingerhoff, E. Stewart, Robert Melton, Samuel Moffitt, D. M.

## The NEW YORK STORE

[ESTABLISHED 1853.]

ATTRACTIVE WORDS do not make a good advertisement unless there are correspondingly ATTRACTIVE VALUES to back them up.

## OUR SPRING OPENINGS:

Last week were the biggest kind of successes, and everybody went away pleased, not only with what they saw and heard, but with what they bought. This week we continue showing SPRING FASHIONS and NOVELTIES in Millinery, Dress Goods, Gloves, Jackets, Capes and Wraps and Parasols. The great store will be full of interest every day.

## DRESS GOODS.

Every day adds to the line of French and German Pattern Dresses, and the extremely moderate prices are quite astonishing to most buyers. We call special attention to our lines at \$6, \$6.75, \$7.50, \$8, \$8.75 and \$9; some of them in combination—plain and fancy material—others are richly embroidered. All are the very newest styles for the spring season.

On the West Bargain Counter we shall sell Monday 97 pieces of all-wool Serge, 40 inches wide, in 30 different colors, a quality that never before sold under 50c, but our special price will be.....44c

## A SILK SPECIAL.

24-inch black all-silk, double-warp Surahs and black China Silks at 69c—the value of these is \$1 per yard.

On the Center Bargain Table.

## BLACK GRENADINES

Will be very popular this season. We are showing large lines of all-Silk Grenadines in plain, stripes, brocade, iron frame and Hermani grounds, from 60c to \$2.50 per yard.

All-Wool Grenadines in plain and striped effects, per yard.....75c to \$1.25

Other summer-weight black dress goods are Nun's Veilings, Challies, Baptiste, Crepons, Crocodile Cloths, and Wool Crepe.....50c to \$1.25

Silk Warps, Lansdowns, Sublime Cloth, Glorias, Clairette and Baptiste Cloths.....75c to \$1.25

## WASH DRESS GOODS.

200 pieces Fine Zephyr Gingham, very choice styles, equal to the French goods, per yard.....12c

One case of very fine Satens, worth 25c, very dainty styles, at the very low price of.....17c

## JACKETS, CAPES AND WRAPS.

We have by far the best line of SPRING AND SUMMER GARMENTS ever offered in the State. Come and inspect the novelties in ENGLISH BOX COATS, BERLIN CAPES, CAPE ULSTERS, etc., etc., and Children's and Misses' REEFERS and JENESKAS, the newest things for Spring wear.

## SPECIAL VALUES.

Tan Blazer Jackets, all-wool Cheviot Cloth, embroidered collar.....\$4.00

Tan and Black Kersey Cloth, English Box Coats, with Pearl buttons, notched or roll collar, only.....\$5.00

All-wool Tan or Black Diagonal, English Box Coats, with large Pearl buttons, only.....\$6.00

English Covert Cloth Jackets, made in the correct style, lapped seams, patch pockets, etc.....\$5.00 and \$9.00

Black Camel-hair Shoulder Wraps, silk-lined and trimmed with silk fringe.....\$5.00

Hand-embroidered Cashmere Fichus, silk embroidery and fringe. One special lot at.....\$3.50

Better grades up to \$45.

Double-breasted Tan Cheviot Cloth Jackets, lined through with changeable silk, only.....\$10.00

## EASTER NOVELTIES.

On the Front Bargain Counter we shall sell to-morrow a large line of Easter Eggs and other Easter Souvenirs at very low prices.

## NOTE THESE NOTIONS.

Clark's 200 yds. Machine Spool Cotton, per doz. spools.....25c

O. N. T. Crochet Cotton, per ball.....5c

Satin Dress Stays, all colors, per set.....10c

Stockinet Dress Shields, sizes 1, 2, 3, per pair.....6c

## LINEN BARGAIN COUNTER.

50 dozen extra large fine and heavy Damask Towels, with various colored borders. Size 25x42 inches; worth 40c each. Special price for Monday.....25c

They'll be all sold before night.

## NEW SPRING MILLINERY.

We are busy. Everybody says we have the largest and nicest line that was ever shown in Indiana. We have carefully catered for all tastes and purses. Whatever price you wish to pay you can find here just the hat or bonnet to suit you. We show all the latest novelties in Untrimmed hats, Flowers, Ribbons, Ornaments, etc., etc., as well as TRIMMED HATS AND BONNETS of all kinds. Special show day to-morrow.

## PETTIS DRY GOODS CO.

ASK FOR

Capital City

CIGAR.

BEST 5¢ CIGAR IN THE MARKET

JNO. RAUCH, MFR.

It LEADS all Others in Popularity. Unequalled in Speed and Durability.

THE NEW IMPROVED

CALIGRAPH:

WRITING MACHINE. Type-writer supplies of all kinds. Machines rented. Also, POMEROY

DUPLICATOR. The best duplicating machine on the market.

H. T. CODE IMPLEMENT CO., General Agents, 75 &amp; 75 West Washington St., Indianapolis.

NEW YORK STORE

Cutlery Department.

Owing to the immense success we have had on the sale

of the "K. B. Extra" Razors we have imported a very

large quantity of these goods. The immense quantity

purchased will enable us to offer this lot of these celebrated

razors at 98c each.

We also carry a complete line of Razor Strops, from 25c

to \$1 each.

A lot of Hercules Corkscrews at 25c each. With this

corkscrew the most difficult cork can be withdrawn without

pulling.

Dr. Pray's Celebrated Manicure Scissors at 48c a pair.

Gents' Pocket-knives, 3 or 4 blades, at 48c, worth \$1.

PETTIS DRY GOODS CO.

I. D. BALDWIN, D. P. A.

## DRESS TRIMMINGS.

We show all the novelties in Jet Girdles, in Marguerite, Cleopatra and La Tosca styles.

Bretelles and Suspenders in Jet and Ribbon effects.

New Skirt and Waist Ornaments in Jet, Gold, Opal and Ribbon effects.

Ribbon and Braid Fringes in black and all colors to match all dress fabrics.

Jet Fringes, Edgings, Separating Gimps and Gallons. Black and colored Silk Edgings.

The new Spangle Gimps in plain and iridescent colors. Illuminated Bead Edgings and Bead Gimps.

Silk and Feather Marabouts in all the new spring colorings, and many other et ceteras for the fashionable trimming of new spring dresses.

## LACES.

Our lace buyer says he has the finest line of Laces he ever handled. Black Silk Drapery Nets, just received, new goods for the season.

40-inch all-Silk Chantilly Flouncings. Special values at.....12c, 35c, 50c up to \$2.50.

All-Silk Black Chantilly Laces, 12 and 14 inches wide.

Beautiful lines of Point de l'Irlande, Point de Gene and Irish Point Laces in Black (all-silk) and Beige. Special values—50 pieces 4-inch real Torchon Lace at only.....10c yd.

These are worth 18c.

3-inch Medici Lace, worth 25c, for.....15c yd.

A large line of new Veilings.

## HANDKERCHIEFS.

500 dozen Ladies' White Embroidered Handkerchiefs—the 15-cent quality, for only.....9c

Ladies' all-linen White Embroidered Handk'ts—special value for.....25c

## EMBROIDERIES.

Special values in Cambrie Edgings and Insertions from 2c to 50c yard.

27-inch Flouncings for Children's Dresses.....39c to \$1.25

45-inch Swiss Embroidered Flouncings from 49c a yard up.

A special line in Black Embroidered Suit Patterns, 4 1/2 yards, for \$1.89

## GLOVES.

Our spring lines are now complete. We have the best \$1 Glove in the trade. Seven different lines. "Our Own" Glove, at \$1.75 for 10-hook style, and \$2 for 8-button Mousquetaire, is the best glove that comes out of France.

It is made to our own order from skins carefully selected and dyed by our own experts, and every pair is guaranteed in every possible way.

White Chamois Gloves are very popular—washable.....\$1.00

A novelty of the season are the Kayser Patent Finger-tipped Gloves. Every pair contains a guarantee which entitles you to another pair free, if the tips don't outwear the gloves.

## SOUVENIR DAY

In the JAPANESE DEPARTMENT TO-MORROW

To-morrow we shall present every visitor to this department with a handsome, decorative fan, to inaugurate the Fan Opening. Over 100 different kinds of Folding Fans will be on sale, from 5c to \$1 each.

There will also be a special sale of Satsuma and Tajian Ware, and also of Embroidered and Painted Screens. We have bought too many, and shall cut prices to close out some of them.

1,000 Globe Baskets at, each.....1c

700 Straw Porch Mats.....5c

820 Feather Dusters.....10c

100 Dollar Tea-Pots at.....69c

1,200 bxs. Hardwood Toothpicks.....4c

SPECIAL—100 4-fold Screens, 5 ft. high, hand-painted, cloth back, worth \$3.50, for only \$1.98 each.

Ready-mixed Paints, per lb.....15c

New lot of Bulbs, Gladiolas, Dahlias, Tuberoses, etc., etc.

Boys' Velocipedes—the best in the market—all steel handles, no wood—only \$1.85.

Steel-wheel Express Wagons, with heavy wheels, size 13x27 1/2, only \$1.35.

Best Rubber Garden Hose, foot 10c

Cotton-covered Rubber Hose, ft. 10c

New Garden and Flower Seeds, package.....3c

Best Rubber Garden Hose, foot 10c

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